

This morning, I had the privilege of joining Leader MCCARTHY and several of our colleagues at the National Law Enforcement Memorial to show our respect for the fallen and our support for the men and women in uniform.

Last year was one of the deadliest years on record for law enforcement officers. So now, more than ever, we need to back the blue and show our continuous support for law enforcement.

When I was a child, I can remember my grandfather telling me: If you ever get in need or get scared, go to a police officer.

Law enforcement has not changed. I still encourage my children and my grandchildren to do the same. I think we have changed the way we view law enforcement.

To all law enforcement officers in this country: Please know that I support you. You are making a difference in our community. You are helping the American people, and we are forever grateful.

On this National Police Week, I encourage all Americans to honor the sacrifices that are made by men and women in uniform, and thank every police officer for the job they are doing.

ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT

(Mr. SCHNEIDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, tonight, because of Hamas terror rockets, millions of people in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank, including frail seniors and young children, are huddled in fear, worried about their loved ones, and uncertain about what tomorrow will bring.

Hamas and other terrorist groups are relentlessly attacking Israel, launching more than 1,500 rockets just since Monday, targeting Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Be'er Sheva, and every community in between.

Israel is rightfully responding to these attacks, protecting its citizens and defending its borders. Civilians are dying, Arabs and Jews. My heart breaks for all innocents killed and injured. It is true that more have died in Gaza, but Israel goes out of its way to minimize civilian casualties. Hamas, conversely, goes out of its way to target civilians in Israel, while launching its rockets from civilian areas in Gaza.

Israel has overwhelming resources to defend herself, yet shows restraint. Hamas has rockets intended only for death and terror. Thankfully, with Iron Dome, Israel has the technology to protect the lives of its citizens, which, in turn, protects Palestinian lives as well.

The U.S. stands with Israel, and we must do all we can to end Hamas' terror attacks and swiftly restore calm to the region.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Mr. GUEST asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, the men and women of law enforcement live by a creed that sets them apart from all other professions. Unfortunately, that creed, to serve and to protect, often places them in harm's way.

While Scripture does not speak directly about law enforcement, we see that Christ said, "blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God."

The peacemakers we honor today are not only law enforcement officers, but they are mothers, fathers, sons, and daughters. They are leaders who face danger on a daily basis to help transform their communities to be better places to live and to worship and to raise a family.

Their service, their love of fellow officers, their love of community, and the sacrifice of law enforcement must not be forgotten. That is why I am proud to join Congresswoman JULIA LETLOW from Louisiana to introduce the resolution expressing support for recognizing National Police Week. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that over 90 of our House colleagues have joined this effort.

The men and women of law enforcement will always be remembered as heroes.

ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT

(Mr. SHERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, Hamas has fired 1,600 rockets into Israel. Each rocket is a war crime, for each was fired solely for the purpose of killing as many civilians as possible.

President Biden has declared, unwaveringly, our support for Israel's right to defend itself. We grieve every civilian death, Israeli and Palestinian. We cannot accept at face value reports of Palestinian deaths since they come from Hamas, a terrorist organization, recognized as such by both the U.S. and the EU.

Hamas has caused many Palestinian deaths since one-quarter of its rockets aimed at Israel actually explode in Gaza, and because Hamas locates its military operations in civilian neighborhoods, using human shields.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Israel for its efforts to avoid civilian casualties while striking successfully at terrorists. I want to commend this Congress for funding Iron Dome, which has successfully avoided so many Israeli civilian deaths.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

(Ms. LETLOW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Police Week to

honor the 394 law enforcement officers whose names have been forever engraved into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C.

I am honored to join Congressman MICHAEL GUEST and 90 of my Republican colleagues in introducing a resolution to recognize these brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice. The surviving families of these officers are now left to walk through the unimaginable path of pain and loss. My prayers are with them every day as they grieve for their loved ones.

My district and State, like so many of my colleagues, did not escape loss. Fifteen law enforcement officers from Louisiana were killed in the line of duty in 2020, including four from the Fifth Congressional District:

Kejuana Artez Bates with the Vidalia Police Department;

Kietrell Michael Pitts with the Tangipahoa Sheriff's Office;

Randy Michael Vallot with the Richland Parish Sheriff's Office; and

Marshal Lee Walter, Jr., with the Mangham Police Department.

These officers swore an oath to uphold the public trust. We remember them not just today or this week, but for years to come. We thank all law enforcement officers and their families for their sacrifice, and ask God to bless each and every one of you.

The people of our country are forever grateful.

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AMERICA STANDS WITH ISRAEL

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, moral clarity—that is what this moment calls for. Terrorists launch rockets at civilians and launch rockets from schools and hospitals, putting kids at risk. They use humans as shields.

Hamas is a terrorist organization sworn to wiping out the only Jewish state on Earth, and the House of Representatives previously declared it shall be the policy of the United States to officially and publicly condemn Hamas for violating the international law of armed conflict by exploiting civilians.

Democracies, on the other hand, act to limit civilian casualties and do everything they can to defend their own citizens. Israel is a democracy. It is the only Jewish state in the world, and our friend and ally in Israel has a right to defend her citizens.

At this moment as more than 1,750 rockets rain down on Israel, we must stand with our ally and stand against Hamas terrorism.

Please don't be fooled by false choices: Israel or Hamas.

But if I am asked to choose between a terrorist organization and our democratic ally, I will stand with Israel